

REMARKS

In the Election of Species Requirement mailed March 27, 2006, the Examiner has restricted the claims directed to the following identified species:

Species I, e.g. claims 1-5 and 6-9: Method for depositing metal (copper) on a semiconductor device having a substrate, an exposed first surface and an exposed second surface applying a bipolar modulated voltage for depositing metal as copper.

Species II, e.g. claims 10-15: Method for depositing metal on a semiconductor device having a substrate, an exposed first surface and an exposed second surface applying a DC offset voltage for depositing metal as copper.

Species III, e.g. claims 16-24 and 25-28: Method for depositing metal (nickel) on a semiconductor device having a substrate, an exposed first surface and an exposed second surface applying a bipolar modulated voltage with retaining metal (nickel) ions on the exposed second layer.

Species IV, e.g. claims 16-24 and 29-32: Method for depositing metal (Palladium) on a semiconductor device having a substrate, an exposed first surface and an exposed second surface applying a bipolar modulated voltage with retaining metal (Palladium) ions on the exposed second layer.

Applicant provisionally elects, with traverse, Species I, identified by the Examiner as having at least claims 1-9 readable thereon.

Applicant traverses, finding the restriction to be unclear and asserting generic claims. For example, **Species I** is identified as being directed to a method for depositing **copper** by applying **a bipolar modulated voltage**. However, claim 1 does not include the terms “copper” or “bipolar modulated voltage.” Dependent claim 4 include “copper” and dependent claim 5 includes “bipolar modulated voltage.” Another example involves **Species II**, which is identified as being directed to a method that applies a **DC offset voltage** for depositing **copper**. However, claim 10 does not include the terms “DC offset voltage” or “copper.” Should the restriction be maintained without the finding of an allowable, generic claim, Applicant respectfully requests clarification of the restriction.

In view of the identified Species, Applicant believes that at least independent claims 1 and 10 are generic. Applicant requests examination of all other species upon allowance of a generic claim. Applicant respectfully reserves the right to reintroduce the non-elected claims for reconsideration in this application upon the allowance of a linking claim or to reintroduce them in one or more divisional applications at a later date.

CONCLUSION

Applicant respectfully submits that the claims are in condition for allowance, and notification to that effect is earnestly requested. The Examiner is invited to telephone Applicant's attorney at (612) 373-6960 to facilitate prosecution of this application.

If necessary, please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-0743.

Respectfully submitted,
GURTEJ S. SANDHU ET AL.

By their Representatives

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CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence is being filed using the USPTO's electronic filing system EFS-Web, and is addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on this 26 day of April, 2006.

Name KATE GANNON

Signature Kate H